

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3680
ANSWERED ON:23.03.2017
Job Cards to Landless Casual Labourers
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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether in a clean-up exercise the Government is surveying 5.4 crore landless casual labourers to assess if they have access to Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) job cards and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the deprivation data under Socio-Economic and Caste Census (SECC) is being used to identify the poor households who have not been covered under MGNREGS and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether an expert group on SECC had recommended that MGNREGS needs to be more focussed towards the regions where there is a greater concentration of landless labour or where people are suffering from multi-dimensional deprivation; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV)

(a) & (b): As per para 3 of Schedule-II, the job card is valid for at least five years after which, it may be renewed after due verification. State/UT-wise number of deleted Job card in current Financial Year 2016-17 (as on 21.03.2017) under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) due to reasons like fakes, misappropriation, wrong allocation and deceased are given at Annexure. States have been advised to carry out exercises to include willing households from deprived categories as per Socio-Economic and Caste Census (SECC), 2011 especially from landless households dependent on casual manual labour.

(c) & (d): The Expert Group set up to study objective criteria for allocation of resources to states and identification and prioritization of beneficiaries under various programmes using SECC has observed that "MGNREGA by design is a demand driven universal programme, SECC criteria of automatic exclusion cannot be applied in this programme to exclude households. However, the Group observed that MGNREGS needs to be more focused towards the regions where there is greater concentration of landless labourer or people are suffering from multi-dimensional deprivations in order to bring about change in the socio-economic landscape of the poor regions of the country. Cluster Facilitation Teams (CFTs) may be strengthened to address the issues of demand for work in the GPs with higher concentration of deprived households and landless manual labour. Households reporting deprivation and those reporting on automatic inclusion criterion may be pro-actively included by the PRIs for job cards and Aadhar linked bank account".
